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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/877,394	06/07/2001	Michael Holmstrom	230.008	7718

7590 12/03/2004

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EXAMINER

HWU, DAVIS D

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
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3752

DATE MAILED: 12/03/2004

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

09/877,394

Applicant(s)

HOLMSTROM, MICHAEL

Examiner

Davis D. Hwu

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-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 06 November 2004.
- 2a) ☒ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☐ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 12-32 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☒ Claim(s) 21, 26 and 27 is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 12, 13, 16, 17, 19, 20, 28-30 and 32 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☒ Claim(s) 14, 15, 18, 22-25 and 31 is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- 1) ☐ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____
- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____
- 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- 6) ☐ Other: _____

Response to Amendment

1. Applicant's amendment and remarks of November 8, 2004 are acknowledged and entered and have been fully considered.
2. The text of those sections of Title 35, U.S. Code not included in this action can be found in a prior Office action.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

3. Claims 12, 13, 16, 17, 19, 28-30, and 32 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being

The patent to Kutsuzawa et al. shows a method of spray extrusion of a low viscosity coating material onto an object via a nozzle 4 connected to a pressurized source 7 of the coating material, the method comprising:

- discharging the coating material through a discharge aperture (see Figure 6) of the nozzle under pressure (Column 6, line 61), the discharge aperture comprising a pattern of discrete discharge holes 9 debouching into a front surface of the nozzle and configured such that the coating material is discharged from the holes in separate strings with a relatively high discharge velocity and impinging the separate strings of the coating material on the object in which the separate strings of the coating material fuses when they come in contact with each other to form a continuous strip of the coating material (Column 2, lines 56-62);

wherein the holes 9 are aligned in a row as recited in claim 13.

The method of Kutsuzawa et al. comprises the device recited in claims 16 and 17 and

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the holes being circular as recited in claim 19.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

4. Claim 20 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Kutsuzawa et al. in view of van Brederode et al.

Kutsuzawa et al. disclose the instant invention except for the nozzle being composed of stainless steel. The patent to van Brederode et al. teaches a coating nozzle composed of stainless steel in which stainless steel nozzles are known for prolonged usage without deterioration. It would have been obvious to one having ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to have modified the device of Kutsuzawa et al. by composing the nozzle of Kutsuzawa et al. with stainless steel as taught by van Brederode et al. to provide a long lasting nozzle.

Allowable Subject Matter

5. Claims 14, 15, 18, 22-25, and 31 are objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

6. Claims 21, 26, and 27 are allowed over the prior art.

Response to Arguments

7. Applicant's arguments filed November 6, 2004 have been fully considered but they are not persuasive. Since the device of Kutsuzawa et al. comprises a plurality of discharge openings 9, the coating material being discharge from each of the discharge openings will initially come out as separate strings regardless of discharge pressures. The strings are impinged on a substrate and fused together on the object to form a

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continuous strip of coating material as recited in column 4, lines 37-40. The device of Kutsuzawa et al. also shows a tip as seen in Figure 1. The coating solution holder 8 is merely an open trough through which discharge from the openings 9 comes out of and impinges onto the substrate.

Conclusion

8. **THIS ACTION IS MADE FINAL.** Applicant is reminded of the extension of time policy as set forth in 37 CFR 1.136(a).

A shortened statutory period for reply to this final action is set to expire **THREE MONTHS** from the mailing date of this action. In the event a first reply is filed within **TWO MONTHS** of the mailing date of this final action and the advisory action is not mailed until after the end of the **THREE-MONTH** shortened statutory period, then the shortened statutory period will expire on the date the advisory action is mailed, and any extension fee pursuant to 37 CFR 1.136(a) will be calculated from the mailing date of the advisory action. In no event, however, will the statutory period for reply expire later than **SIX MONTHS** from the mailing date of this final action.

9. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Davis D. Hwu whose telephone number is 571-272-4904. The examiner can normally be reached on 8:00-4:30.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Dave Scherbel can be reached on 571-272-4919. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

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Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).



Davis Hwu